
Press Release

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SCAG GENERAL ASSEMBLY SET FOR MAY 7 – 8 IN CITY OF LA QUINTA

***Keynote speakers include State Senator Denise Moreno Ducheny and
SANDAG Executive Director Gary Gallegos***

Los Angeles – April 30, 2009 – The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) announced the keynote speakers scheduled for its 44th Annual General Assembly. San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) Executive Director Gary Gallegos will serve as keynote speaker at the Awards Luncheon on Thursday, May 7th. Later that evening, State Senator Denise Moreno Ducheny (D-San Diego) will deliver the keynote address at the Annual Dinner.

“We are delighted to have such distinguished individuals participate in our General Assembly program this year,” said Hasan Ikhrata, SCAG Executive Director. “With their collective knowledge and professional expertise, they each will provide thought-provoking and inspiring messages to General Assembly attendees.”

This year, the annual meeting is a two-day gathering of elected officials and government agency representatives from throughout Southern California. In addition to the regular business meeting of the SCAG Regional Council, Thursday’s General Assembly activities include the distribution of the SCAG City Profiles – a detailed demographic analysis of each member-city.

Thursday’s events also include an Awards Luncheon with Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG) Executive Director Rick Bishop serving as Master of Ceremonies. In addition to Gallegos’ speech, the luncheon includes the presentation of SCAG’s Regional Champion Awards. This year’s recipients are Riverside County Transportation Commission Executive Director Ann Mayer; SE Corporation President and Green Institute Founder Ali Sahabi; Port of Los Angeles Director of Goods Movement Kerry Cartwright; and KNBC-TV Channel 4 News Anchor and Reporter Beverly White.

During Thursday’s General Assembly meeting, attendees will acknowledge the service of SCAG President Richard Dixon, who will pass the gavel to SCAG’s incoming President, Jon

Edney. Thursday's events conclude with a Southern California State Legislative Reception followed by the Annual Dinner, featuring Senator Ducheny's keynote address.

Activities for Friday, May 8th include a joint policy committee workshop on SB 375, the legislation requiring SCAG and other metropolitan planning organizations to incorporate the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in long-range planning for transportation, housing and land-use. During this workshop, SCAG staff will unveil the Sustainable Community Strategies conceptual land-use scenario.

SCAG's 44th Annual General Assembly is being held in the Coachella Valley at the La Quinta Resort & Club in the City of La Quinta. For more information, call Linda Jones at 213.236.1912 or visit the SCAG Web site at www.scag.ca.gov.

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About SCAG

SCAG is the nation's largest metropolitan planning organization, representing six counties, 189 cities and more than 18 million residents. SCAG undertakes a variety of planning and policy initiatives to plan for a livable and sustainable Southern California now and in the future. For more information about SCAG's regional efforts, please visit www.scag.ca.gov.